THE FOURTH DAY.

16th February 1911.

SUBJECTS.

The Assembly met at 11 A. M. on Thursday, the 16th February.

The consideration of the General Subjects was resumed.

49. Establishment of Dispensaries at important stations in the High Range.

Mr. V. A. Parameswara Menon (Member, Cardamom Ryots) first expressed the gratitude and thankfulness of the Cardamom ryots to the Government for the constitution of the High Ranges into a Division, the extension of the Anchal line, and the establishment of a Hospital at Udumbanshola. He said that Santhapara, Vandanmettu and Udumbanshola were the three *pakuthies* which were largely inhabited by the Cardamom ryots. There were about 4,000 ryots in all, though the bulk of them were foreigners. The climate of the place was malarious, and the people also suffered much havoc from wild animals. There were now Dispensaries only at Udumbanshola and Devikulam, which, owing to distance, could not serve *all* the *pakuthies*. For, the distance from Santhapara to Devikulam was 17 miles, and to Udumbanshola it was 12 miles. Kumili, where a hospital had been sanctioned by the Government, was 18 miles from Vandanmettu. The Member therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to sanction the opening of two more Dispensaries—one at Santhapara and the other at Vandanmettu.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's request is noted for consideration.

50. Establishment of Asylums for incurables.

Mr. Narayanar Janardhanar (Member, Jenmies of the Trivandrum and Padmanabhapuram Divisions) said that large numbers of poor and destitute beggars—many of them suffering from loathsome, contagious and incurable diseases—frequented the public roads, especially on festival occasions when large crowds were present. Though the condition of the beggars excited the pity of the passers-by, yet the former were also a source of nuisance to the people, because of the loathsome diseases they suffered from. The Member therefore requested that the Government might consider the matter sympathetically and open a poor-house in every important town for the housing of

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SUBJECTS.

the destitute beggars suffering from incurable diseases. He said that this would be a great boon to both the poor people and also to the public generally, who had all other conveniences such as Hospitals and Vydiasalas, Leper and Lunatic Asylums, Maternity Hospitals and Opthalmic Hospitals.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

51. Measures for the prevention of the serious loss of life on account of cholera.

Mr. D. Francis (Member, Nominated) said that the epidemic of cholera was more or less a regular visitor in South Travancore during the months of October, November and December every year. In each season, several persons were prematurely cut off, the number of victims during the closing months of 1910 having risen to an appalling figure. In the Agastiswaram taluk alone, the population was reduced by more than 2,000 persons during that dreadful season. The question then was whether this grave and continued decimation of the population should not be checked. Of course, when the disease broke out, the Government adopted certain measures for the relief of the afflicted. But this was of very little permanent consequence. It was necessary that those measures should be supplemented by steps calculated to *prevent* the inroads of the epidemic in the years to come. A thorough investigation into the matter by competent persons was therefore of the utmost importance and urgency. In these circumstances, the Member pleaded for the appointment, at an early date, of a carefully constituted Commission to make an exhaustive local investigation into the conditions and circumstances of the periodical sweeping away of precious human lives.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

52. The insanitary condition of the Shencotta town and suggestions for remedying the same.

Mr. S. Subramonia Karayalar, B. A. (Member, Shencotta Taluk) said that the four essential requisites of good sanitation, *viz.*, pure air to breathe, good water to drink, wholesome food to eat, and comfortable houses to live in, were all sadly lacking in Shencotta. The air of the town was contaminated by the foul odours emanating from a filthy tank, *viz.*, the *Perumalkulam*, situated in the very heart of the town. The tank was used as a common latrine by the people, and the rubbish of the town was also thrown into it. The local English School being situated close to the tank, the health of the boys was liable to be injuriously affected. During the rainy season, the accumulated filthy matter in the tank was carried to the river, the water of which was used by the people for drinking and bathing purposes. Owing to the unhappy situation of the tank, fever and

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